

place when a ranch is sold. It is not just a loss to the family, it ripples much wider. There are movements in the right direction, but are they moving quickly enough? Because once it is sold to developers this ranch is gone forever.

Real quickly, "I Am a Businessman". So I am telling my colleagues this is not just families, farms and ranches.

I am a businessman. My business is all about what a small business is. I have 42 people employed, and we are in our second generation. I am all too familiar with the death tax, as my father passed away 2 years ago. My mother, my sister and I have been through the experience of paying estate taxes at 50 percent-plus rate. Let me explain how we were fortunate enough to get into this bracket.

My father left school after the 8th grade in 1938 and did odd jobs until serving for 3 years in World War II. Afterward, he purchased a small diner and built a 12-unit motel in a small town in Pennsylvania. He and mom worked 16 hours a day 7 days a week for 12 years before migrating to the restaurant supply business. That was better business. But it was not an easy task either.

I can remember him saying for many years that he hoped Monday's mail would have enough money to cover the payroll costs he had written on the previous Friday.

You can ask in this country, why would anybody start a business? There are obviously still Americans that are willing to risk everything to be in control of their lives. The satisfaction of proving that you can do better is still a motivator in our country. The key word is "risk". People are willing to take this risk, provide the jobs and tax base that makes this country grow.

Only by taxes from those who take risk does the government even exist. This is why when I see our Secretary of Treasury write about the repeal of the estate tax I can become exorcised. He seems to think that this money is the Treasury's money to dispense as it pleases.

Maybe it appears to be a simple view of fairness and equity if you spent your life in academia and never had to worry about making a payroll. But I resent like hell being told that I am selfish to want to keep what I and my family have earned and already paid taxes on.

In effect, the government is saying to businessmen, and I am skipping, by the way, some paragraphs, in effect, the government is saying to businessmen, since you worked harder and longer and were more successful, we will use your estate to pay for programs which we take political credit.

The original purpose of this death tax was to catch a handful of robber barons from the early industrial America. Now it reaches into the most pro-

ductive parts of America. Is not the fact that 5 percent of our citizens now pay 50 percent of the tax bill evidence that there is more than enough progressivity in the Tax Code.

This was an article written in the Washington Post dated Friday, July 14th, 2000. I have other cases, more samples.

The key is this, Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we face on this floor a very significant vote. The President of the United States of America has made a decision that the death tax in this country should stand. The President of the United States of America has submitted to the U.S. House of Representatives in his budget a proposal, not only to let the death tax stand, but to increase it by \$9.5 billion.

The President of this country has vetoed a bipartisan bill. In other words, Republicans and Democrats sent to the President a piece of legislation saying, Mr. President, enough is enough. Get rid of this death tax. It fundamentally will not alter the revenues to this country. It is not a big revenue producer. Get rid of it. The President of the United States vetoed that bill, and tomorrow the President of the United States sends up to us on this House floor his veto message, and we have the opportunity to override it.

I am confident that we in these chambers and that the Democrats will come across the aisle and that, as a team, we will stand up and be counted and say that the death tax is not justified in this country, that the role of our government should be to encourage, not discourage the passing of business or property from one generation to the next generation.

Tomorrow we will stand, and we will take that vote. I am not sure how the result is going to be in the Senate, but I hope they vote to override it, too.

During my entire term in Congress, I cannot think of something that would be more pro family, that would help preserve more open space, that just out of fundamental fairness would go back to a fair and equitable tax scheme than doing away with the death tax.

Tomorrow it is on our shoulders. No way out. If one is going to be here to vote, one is going to have to post one's vote. Do not give one's constituents some magic tale about why one voted to keep the death tax in place. One is either for elimination of it or one is not.

Tomorrow my colleagues are going to make that decision. I hope for the sake of future Americans, I hope for the sake of the young people in their mid twenties that want to make their dreams come true, for the couples like my wife and I who want to make our dreams come true and for my parents who want to pass their dreams on to the next generation, I hope for the sake of those people, for my colleagues' constituents, that my colleagues stand

tall against the President and vote to override his veto.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of attending a funeral.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BACA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PAUL) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SIMPSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. COBLE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ROHRBACHER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS, A JOINT RESOLUTION AND A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

Bills, a joint resolution and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 610. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in Washakie County and Big Horn County, Wyoming, to the Westside Irrigation District, Wyoming, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1894. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land to Park County, Wyoming; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1936. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other National Forest System land in the State of Oregon and use the proceeds derived from the sale or exchange for National Forest System purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2020. An act to adjust the boundary of the Natchez Trace Parkway, Mississippi, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2279. An act to authorize the addition of land to Sequoia National Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.